

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 70

Commemorating the 40th anniversary of Bloody Sunday.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 3, 2005

Mr. FRIST (for himself, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. McCONNELL, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. REID, and Mr. ALEXANDER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Commemorating the 40th anniversary of Bloody Sunday.

Whereas March 7, 2005, marks the 40th anniversary of Bloody Sunday, the day on which some 600 civil rights marchers were demonstrating for African American voting rights;

Whereas Jimmy Lee Jackson was killed February 26, 1965, 2 weeks prior to Bloody Sunday, at a civil rights demonstration while trying to protect his mother and grandfather from a law enforcement officer;

Whereas Congressman John Lewis and the late Hosea Williams led these marchers across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama where they were attacked with billy clubs and tear gas by State and local lawmen;

Whereas the circumstances leading to Selma's Bloody Sunday represented a set of grave injustices for African Americans which included—

(1) the murder of Herbert Lee of Liberty, Mississippi for attending voter education classes;

(2) the cutting off of Federal food relief by State authorities in 2 of the poorest counties in Mississippi in order to intimidate residents from registering to vote; and

(3) the loss of jobs or refusal of credit to registered black voters at local banks and stores;

Whereas during the march on Bloody Sunday Congressman Lewis was beaten unconscious, leaving him with a concussion and countless other injuries;

Whereas footage of the events on Bloody Sunday was broadcast on national television that night and burned its way into the Nation's conscience;

Whereas the courage, discipline, and sacrifice of these marchers caused the Nation to respond quickly and positively; and

Whereas the citizens of the United States must not only remember this historic event, but also commemorate its role in the creation of a more just society and appreciate the ways in which it has inspired other movements around the world: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That Congress commemorates the 40th an-
2 niversary of Bloody Sunday.

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